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the george brown college of applied arts and technology

Meet the governors

This is the first in a series of articles introducing George Brown's Board of Governors. The Board has 12 members including the President. Mr. Robert Bradley is Chairman of the Board. Mr. Horace Brown is Vice-Chairman.

Chairman lectures at St. James Campus

Residential Property Management students got a feeling for the history of Canadian public housing, first hand, when Chairman Robert Bradley visited St. James Campus as guest lecturer recently.

Mr. Bradley, who is Director of Community Relations for the Ontario Housing Corporation, was involved from the outset in the establishment of Canada's first family, public housing project, Toronto's Regent Park.

He showed the students a film called "Farewell Oak Street", produced at the time of Regent Park's creation, showing slum dwellings, housing 19 and 20 people in unsanitary, delapidated, unsafe conditions. The slums on Oak Street were torn down to make way for modern, single-family apartments.

He told of the changes in social mix, values and problems in public housing over the years.

In the first years, for example, most families were working poor — laborers, retail workers, post office staff — who were unable to find decant housing because of a severe post-war housing shortage. Today, the majority of families are motherless and living on public assistance, said Mr. Bradley.

He told of problems today with municipalities refusing to grant building permits for family projects. "Senior citizen projects are no problem, but nobody wants family housing," he said. Toronto has a waiting list of 7,000.

He discussed the trend towards government funding of private developments, in exchange for a percentage of low-cost units.

Mr. Bradley emphasized that he didn't see public housing as a cure-all for all social ills. "But giving a family a decent environment, to function as a family, can be a great support." He also stressed the importance of being sensitive to the feelings of people in public housing.

The students, some of whom will probably manage public housing projects sometime during their careers, had an opportunity to ask questions and chat informally with Mr. Bradley during the two-hour session.

Robert Bradley

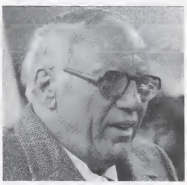
Robert B. Bradley has been Chairman of the Board of George Brown College since 1976. He is also Director of the Community Relations Branch of the Ontario Housing Corporation.

Born and educated in Toronto, Mr. Bradley served with the RCAF after graduating from St. Michael's College in 1941. He joined the Ontario Government in 1943 and in 1952 was transferred to the Department of Planning and Development to assist in the establishing of the Public Housing Programme in Ontario.

In 1964 Mr. Bradley was appointed Executive Director of the Toronto Housing Authority. After the takeover of the Toronto Housing Authority by OHC in 1969, he joined the Toronto YMCA as Director of Promotion and Development. He was appointed Director of Community Relations for OHC in March 1971.

Over the years Mr. Bradley has been active in many other civic organizations. He has been a trustee of the North York Board of Education since 1953. He was founder and president of the Canadian Vocational Association, a member of the National Association of Housing and Re-Development Officials, charter member of the North York Family Welfare Bureau, past president of the York Mills Community Association, member of the Metropolitan Toronto Board of Trade, past member of the Executive of the Toronto Branch of the Red Cross, associate member of the Toronto Press Club, past member of the Board of Catholic Family Services, board member of the North York YMCA, board member of the Metropolitan Toronto Social Planning Council, and a fellow of the Institute of Housing Management.

Mr. Bradley is married and is the father of eight children. In 1977, his son Peter was a member of the first graduating class of George Brown's Residential Property Management Program.



Horace Brown

Horace Brown, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors, is serving his last year as a board member of the College. He served five years as an alderman, and five as a city citizen representative. In 1977, the City of Toronto presented him with a Medal of Service, given

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GBC teacher writes English textbook for adults

A new book, "Brush Up Your English!", written by George Brown English teacher Erma Collins, is designed to teach basic grammar to adults in a non-childish way.

The text was published in late November and is receiving an excellent response, according to publisher McGraw-Hill Ryerson. Jane Martin, an editor with the company, said she has high hopes for it. "Five-thousand copies have been printed and complimentary ones sent to all high schools, universities and colleges in Canada. Comment cards were sent with each book and we've had many returns praising it," says Ms. Martin. "We should be receiving orders for next September soon."

The book is Erma Collins' first. She spent three summer vacations writing it and says she got the idea from Bill Ferguson, her supervisor at the college.

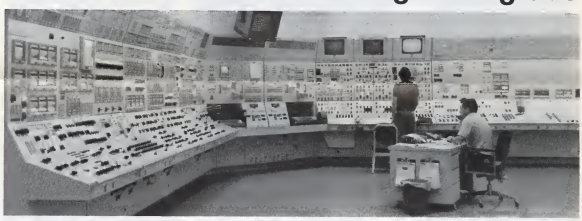
"I was taking graduate studies at the Ontario Institute for Studies In Education, at the time, and wanted to work on a project that was practical. Bill suggested the book. Most English grammar texts are designed for young people. And it's demeaning for adults to have to learn from this type of book."

"Brush Up Your English!" is meant to be used as a supplementary text, says Ms. Collins. She will be using it in the language laboratory at St. James Campus. The lab is designed for students who need remedial work in English or for those who want to excel.

Asked if she will be writing another book, she replied, "I'm an opportunist. If something comes up and I think I can manage, I will. But teaching and marking papers take a lot out of me."

"Brush Up Your English!" is available at the St. James Campus bookstore for $6.95.

Instrumentation: future bright for grads



Control room at Hydro's Pickering Nuclear Plant. Photo courtesy Ont. Hydro.

George Brown graduate Wilkie Oliver can make the most difficult concepts sound simple. He talks about electro-mechanical and computer processes with ease.

That's because he's been working in the field of instrumentation for more than 10 years.

The College offers a four-semester technician program, a six-semester technology program, and a 40-week Manpower program in instrumentation, but few people outside the industry know what's involved.

The principles of instrumentation concern the measuring and control of variables in the manufacturing processes of a product. Those variables include pressure, temperature, liquid level and flow.

"When you're making a product," says Mr. Oliver, "the variables must be measured and controlled to strike the right balance. Instruments are used to determine the quantity and balance of the variables.

A technician's job is to maintain and analyze the instruments, which may be electro-mechanical, electronic, wired to a computer, pneumatic (using air as a power source) and sometimes hydraulic (using liquids as a power source).

An instrumentation technologist is more concerned with designing the application of the instruments to make a specific commodity.

"The basic principles behind instrumentation have remained the same over the years," says Mr. Oliver, "but the application of those principles is constantly changing. This fast rate of technological change is making instrumentation a very competitive field."

Until community colleges started teaching the subject, there wasn't much formal, post-secondary training in it available to Canadian high school graduates, says Oliver.

He believes there's no other trade that offers such a wide variety of activities, including many of the common trades like electrical, welding, and steamfitting.

Many students coming out of high school, he says, enroll in a specific program such as electronics or mechanics. "But they're limiting themselves to one job area." In the instrumentation field you have the

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Tom Van Horne

Only six days after graduating from George Brown's Instrumentation Technology program, 20-year-old Tom Van Horne started working for the Nuclear Division of Ontario Hydro.

Mr. Van Horne is currently on a 10-month training program with Hydro at the nuclear training plant near Deep River. He's learning to maintain the control systems at the plant and when his training period is over, he'll be earning more than $16,000 a year.

Instrumentation Technology is one of George Brown's "three - in - two" programs, where six semesters of study are covered in two years, through the use of a longer academic year. "That's one of the things I liked about the program," says Van Horne.

He was also impressed by the enthusiasm of the instructors. "Most of the teachers had worked in the field previously, so they were able to give students a lot of inside advice."

During high school, Mr. Van Horne learned through his father that there were many opportunities in instrumentation. But it was a high school guidance counsellor that directed him to George Brown.

First Theatre Arts graduates are doing well

Life for the theatre actor can be tough — long hours, auditions that don't pan out, less than glamorous pay.

But when a really good job comes along, it can all seem worthwhile.

That's what Janet Feindel found out recently when she was hired as one of 12 apprentice actors for the Stratford Festival's four Shakespearean plays this summer. Janet was a member of the first graduating class of the College's two-year Theatre Arts program, last spring. She moved to Stratford in February to start her new job with the Festival.

Scene from "Can You See Me Yet?"

Several of her classmates are also doing well, reports the program's Artistic Director Joseph Shaw. Brian Callan is working for the Bramalea Children's Theatre; Graeme McKenna is with Bastion Theatre in Victoria, B.C.; Lane White is working for the Limelight Dinner Theatre in Toronto. You've probably also seen Lane in a Colt 45 commercial currently aired on television. Garry Hunt has done some filming in New York and is now directing at the Cafe Soho in Toronto. He's also appeared in government films and commercials for Shell and Coca Cola. Veronica Pilger is working at Yak Yaks coffee house in Toronto. Maggie Borg has continued her dance studies and is currently preparing for her Royal Academy of Dance exams.

Several of this year's graduates have applied for auditions for the Shaw Festival at Niagara-On-The-Lake and the Charlottetown Festival in P.E.I. this summer.

College staff, students and other members of the public had an opportunity to see the current class at work, March 7-10, during four performances of "Can You See Me Yet?" by Canadian playwright and novelist Timothy Findlay. The performances were held in the new Theatre Arts building at 530 King Street East.

Editor's Note: Just before press time Mosaic learned that Garry Hunt has been hired as a full member of the Shaw Festival. He will have full speaking parts in two plays this summer: Bluejacket in "Captain Brassbound's Conversion", and a miner in "The Corn Is Green". He will also understudy Valentine in "You Never Can Tell".

Nursing is part of new life for some graduates

Graduate Marie Ah-Fat with family.

Eighteen nursing graduates received their diplomas at a graduation ceremony in the Casa Loma staff lounge, January 12.

President Doug Light conferred the diplomas on the graduates and gave the graduation address. Sister Marion Barron, Dean of Nursing, presented the candidates. Phyllis Morley, Associate Dean, and Chairman Maureen Komlos presented the pins and diplomas.

Graduation for many of these students meant the end of a long period of hard work and sacrifice and the long-looked-forward-to start of a new career. Marie Florise Ah-Fat, who was the first graduate to receive her diploma, is a good example.

Ms. Ah-Fat moved to Canada in 1975 with her sister and brother-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Koo, and their daughter Veronique. The family comes from Mauritius, an island in the Indian Ocean, off the east coast of Africa.

Ms. Ah-Fat was an elementary school teacher in Mauritius for more than 20 years, but the need to upgrade her teaching qualifications in Canada combined with the shortage of jobs, lead her to take up nursing as a new career. Her sister trained as a nurse in England and is currently working for a nursing home in Toronto.

Language was no problem since Mauritius is bilingual, French and English. But nearly three hours a day travelling by bus and streetcar from the family home in Etobicoke to attend classes, having been away from school for so many years, and all the problems associated with adapting to a new country, made full-time study pretty difficult.

On January 12, though, it all seemed worthwhile.

In February, the happy ending was complete when Ms. Ah-Fat was hired by Medical Personnel Nursing Services in Toronto. She will be doing supply nursing for the company in hospitals and nursing homes.

Horace Brown, Vice-Chairman...*cont'd from p. 1*

to citizens who serve without pay on the boards of such organizations as George Brown. When he completes his term, he will have been a Governor longer than any other in the Ontario college system.

Mr. Brown tells about his career as a professional author for more than a half-century in a recently published collection of short stories, essays and poems, titled "Encore". The book is available at the George Brown Library and most book stores. Several of the stories were read recently by Don Harron on CBC's "Morningside". Mr. Harron called it a "marvellous book".

Mr. Brown has also published mysteries in the United States, England, Scandinavia and France.

A pioneer in Canadian radio since 1929, he is being given a prominent place in the Radio Drama Project, a museum of radio work being put together by Concordia University in Montreal. He was twice named outstanding writer for radio in Canada. He served the Canadian National Railways Radio Network, the Canadian Radio Commission and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, each of these organizations succeeding the other in Canadian radio history. He wrote for many famous personalities including Charles Boyer, Walter Pidgeon, Madeleine Carroll and Edward Arnold.

As an infant, Mr. Brown was stricken with polio, then called "infantile paralysis". In 1948, he founded the Canadian March of Dimes.

For 21 years, he was a writer for Ontario Hydro. During 15 of those years, he was Hydro's Radio and Television Editor.

A Toronto alderman from 1961 until 1972, Mr. Brown was the only member of Council who was chairman of all standing committees and of the Board of Health.

He says he hopes he has made a contribution to George Brown equal to the satisfaction serving George Brown has given him.

people

New staff and changes

Library Studies: Cindy McCarty, technician, Casa Loma; Chiyo Hamade, secretary to Rita Edwards, Casa Loma. **English and Liberal Studies:** John Price, administrator, School of Dance, St. James. **Transportation:** Tom Prisley, driver, Casa Loma. **Fashion Technology:** John Kasper, teacher (apparel pattern drafting), Kensington. **Information Systems:** Raymond Ko, assistant analysist, Casa Loma. **Architectural Technology:** William Lett, technician, and Douglas Sayers, instructor, Casa Loma; Lloyd Tudor, instructor, (mechanical design & servicing), Casa Loma. **Stores:** Russell Palmer and Danny Spiliopoulos, shipping/receiving, Casa Loma. **Admissions:** Eric McMillan, clerk, College Street. **Industrial Training:** Lori Bailey, clerk, College Street; John Edgeworth, driving instructor, Polson Street. **Admissions:** Sheila Masterson, clerk, Casa Loma; Tubune Glasgow, clerk, College Street (from Industrial Training). **Test Centre:** Brian Bursten, clerk, Casa Loma. **Food Technology:** Mel Boles, bakery management instructor, Kensington; Philip Alcide and Allen Brown, chef instructors, Kensington. **Personnel:** Sheila Whyte, clerk, MacPherson (from Test Centre). **Electro-Mechanical:** Margaret Whittleton, secretary, St. James (formerly with the Fashion Division). **President's Office:** Ursela Deichsel, secretary, MacPherson. **Allied Health Auxiliaries:** George Winder, instructor, Casa Loma; Leonard McKanday, instructor, Casa Loma. **Mathematics and Science:** Frank Tucker, instructor, St. James; George Bellomo, instructor, Casa Loma. **Business and Commerce:** Darlene Marshall, secretary, St. James (from Nursing).

Congratulations

Dave Brown, formerly with Transportation, at MacPherson, is now a full-time driving instructor at Polson Street.

Happenings

Congratulations to newly-weds Lynn Robin, payroll, MacPherson, now Mrs. Francois; Enid Williams, Allied Health Auxiliaries, and Allen Brown, Food Technology, who were married December 26; Bill George, Electro-Mechanical, St. James and Jeff Muise, Stores, Kensington; Pat Hargan, Nursing, St. James, now Mrs. Nieder.

Departures

Nursing: Instructors Willona Blanche and Gail Pahwa, have left the college to be full-time mothers.

"THINKING FACES", an outdoor sculpture by GBC welding graduate Karena Massengill, was unveiled recently at Blacksmith Public School, in Downsview. The six faces "reminscent of youthful thoughts", were created from ¾" corten plate steel, with metalizing on one side and edges of either bronze, aluminum or copper. They range in height from 4½ to 13 ft. Karena did welding demonstration work for Eutectic Welding Supplies after graduating from the Welder Fitter program two years ago. She is now pursuing her artistic career full-time.

Instrumentation...*cont'd from p. 1*

potential of moving into a variety of areas, ranging from computer science to design drafting or process control.

Mr. Oliver was born and educated in Trinidad, where he took apprenticeship training in instrumentation. He came to Canada in 1966. Not long afterward, he enrolled in the two-year Instrumentation Technician program at George Brown.

His career has included work in a Texaco oil refinery; Ontario Hydro nuclear plants at Deep River, Douglas Point and Pickering; a detergent manufacturing company; a newly-built factory for Union Carbide; and a plant for Petrocar, the company that supplies Union Carbide with its raw materials.

In September, 1978, Oliver returned to George Brown to take the final two semesters in the Instrumentation Technology program. He hopes to get into design and design consulting work when he graduates.

Microprocessor course a winner

The Electro-Mechanical Division won a tender competition recently, over several other organizations, to provide Ontario Hydro staff with a special 10-week course in microprocessors, starting January.

The course is an offshoot of the Division's extremely popular night course in microprocessors, developed and taught by electronics instructor Merle Reist. This course has been oversubscribed since its initiation two years ago, and has had many Hydro staff as graduates.

The new course, set up in co-operation with the College's Industrial Training Division, is taught by Mr. Reist at Hydro's Richview Control Centre near Toronto Airport. The Centre monitors power for all Hydro plants across Ontario.

Mr. Reist is teaching a class of 13 technicians and technologists methods of evaluation, use and service of new computer and control terminals using microprocessors.

A microprocessor is an integrated circuit computer with the electronics contained in a small package about one inch by two inches. Household applications include microwave ovens and automatic washers and dryers, which require sequence progamming to control variables such as temperature and timing.

Technicians/technologists help keep classes running

A group of more than 50 technicians and technologists, who do everything from tending bar to mixing mortar, are the unsung heroes of the College's academic divisions.

They maintain equipment, order supplies, assist instructors with the teaching program, mix chemicals, prepare food, and supervise lab experiments.

Often they take on jobs outside their normal duties to assist in the smooth operation of the academic programs and generally promote the good of the College.

Erik Simundson, who worked on research and construction of the miniature Crystal Palace for last year's CNE exhibit, is a good example. Normally, his duties in the Civil Engineering Department include supervising the lab experiments involving concrete, asphalt and other substances; assisting the instructors in demonstrations; maintaining the drafting equipment; ordering supplies; and generally assisting in the department's operation. During his five-year stay at the College, Erik's many hats have ranged from photographer to cold-weather survival advisor for foreign students.

Erik Simundson

Technologist Al Cockburn has also worn many hats during ten years at the College. The most glamorous is that of television producer. About four years ago, he developed a video communications option for English instruction at the College. Offered in conjunction with regular English classes, it was designed to teach the fundamentals of closed-circuit television communications, and, at the same time, help students with language problems. The program is still popular. Two other technicians, Bill Insley and Tim Dineen, assist him with scheduling, programming and other studio work.

Another technician Mike Marcello, whose regular duties include maintenance of the science labs for academic upgrading, has also helped out in the TV studio.

Al is currently supervisor of the technicial staff for both the English and Liberal Studies, and the Mathematics and Science divisions. He demonstrates, prepares equipment and specimens for the biology labs, and supervises supply ordering and equipment maintenance for three campuses. Supplies for the biology labs may include anything from animal brains to chicken legs, which are purchased from a meat packing plant.

Al, Tim and Bill have spent a considerable amount of time recently setting up a central storage area at Casa Loma Campus for the two divisions with the aim of cutting down on duplication of equipment and supplies that can be shared among the campuses.

Bea Ruddy and Shanti Sharma, at College Campus, maintain the language labs there including dubbing, video and audio taping.

The Food Technology Division has six technicians and technologists on staff. Arthur Roberts supervises the meat lab and does the ordering, shipping, and receiving of all meat. Fred Steel manages the bake shop, supervises lab work, demonstrates, processes special orders and handles shipping and receiving for that department.

Mary Ciffin, Desire Applewhite and Gordon Paul are food lab technicians responsible for the assembly, delivery and removal of all food supplies and smallware required by the cooking demonstration labs. They're also involved in the Division's many special catering projects such as banquets and food demonstrations at trade shows and the CNE. Dining room technician Barbara Berridge is responsible for cash and the bar in the Kensington dining room, as well as food supply and smallware needed for demonstrations in the dining room.

Allied Health Auxiliaries has four technicians. Lydia Leite is receptionist in the dental clinic, working with patient file records. Kathy Prypasniak and Brenda Watson maintain equipment and supplies in the dental clinic, and assist the dentists. Mary Griffin helps run the fitness lab at 160 Kendal Avenue, assists with teaching in the Fitness Instructor program, helps students design exercise programs, and outlines testing procedures to determine individual fitness programs.

Rose Kerr looks after the demonstration rooms for the Nursing Division at St. James Campus, keeping them orderly and maintaining supplies.

The Graphic Arts Division has seven technicians and technologists. John Coulter helps students in the techniques of sign making and lettering, and in screen process printing. Warren D'Amboise prepares film chemicals, maintains equipment and orders materials to be used in the graphic design and commercial art departments. Lloyd Dundas, in the composition department, works with a variety of typesetting equipment, including hot metal type and photo typesetting. Dave Tate and Ron Harding work with presses such as offset, gravure and letterpress. Gus Christopoulas is involved in photochemical reproduction and printing surface preparation. He orders materials such as film, chemicals, photo paper and light tables. Barry Longlade maintains the binding and finishing equipment.

All the technicians in this division order materials, parts for machinery, prepare materials for classes and assist the teachers.

The Fashion Technology Division has three technicians and technologists. Sarah Weber works in the Ceramics Department ordering and checking the tons of clay needed each year. She also checks the glazes, maintains inventory control, gets rid of discarded pottery, maintains the kilns, looks after firing, keeps records, and demonstrates, when necessary.

Paul Severino

Sandy Schatz is a technician in the Barbering/Hairdressing Department. She mixes the chemicals required for dying and bleaching, orders supplies, maintains equipment for both sections, supervises appointment bookings and cash.

Leo Greenberg, an apparel technologist, handles all the materials and supplies for the cutting rooms at Kensington. He's also responsible for the department's silk screening operation, the machine and supplies inventory for all apparel programs, cutting demonstrations and machine pattern grading.

At Casa Loma Campus, William Lett works nights for the Architectural Division, looking after the toolroom and heating shops for the night school teachers. Paul Severino, in the masonry shop, mixes mortar and positions bricks and stonework ready for use by Manpower and apprenticeship students. After the projects are completed, he demolishes them and stores what is salvageable. Aldo Matallo assists Paul in the masonry shop. Both men help out in other areas of the division when they're needed.

Irving Findlay works for the Electro-Mechanical Division in the machine shop, issuing, receiving and maintaining tools and materials. Gary Leong, a maintenance technician in the Welding Department, is responsible for inventory and repair of all the welding equipment. Guiseppe (Joe) Care is in charge of maintaining all the equipment in the Electrical Department.

Natalie Sirkis, at St. James, has an unusual job for a technician. A pianist/accompanist, she plays for the ballet classes at the School of Dance several times a week and is in charge of developing the dance school's music library.

At the other extreme is Ron Sadore, at Polson Pier. A mechanic, Ron maintains the driving school's fleet of 17 trucks and 11 trailers.

Whatever their jobs, the technicians and technologists in many ways are the lifeblood of the College. They don't always get the recognition they deserve for making life easier for students, teachers and administrators alike.

Dental students tape puppet show to demonstrate good hygiene practices for children, in TV studio, with academic technicians.

St. James Campus hosts open houses, awards ceremonies

St. James Campus has been host to two open houses and two awards ceremonies recently.

The Graphic Arts Division held an open house, January 17, in conjunction with International Printing Week, January 15-20. More than 250 representatives from industry and the public visited the printing facilities at St. James Campus, despite poor weather conditions.

The Nursing Division also had a good turnout for its open house, February 3. High school students from across Metro had an opportunity to tour the nursing facilities, chat with students and staff, and generally become acquainted with the College.

On January 18th, the Graphic Arts Division held an awards ceremony for outstanding students in the Printing Technician and Graphic Design programs.

Graphic Design winners were: Donna Oliver, The E. E. Tigert Award, Second Year; Elizabeth Beattie, The Loomis and Toles Award, Second Year; Joe Finbow, The E. Harris Award, First Year; Jane MacNamara, The Naz-Dar Graphics Award, First Year.

The Graphic Arts Graduate Student Association provided $800 in awards for outstanding students in the Printing Technician program. Winners were: Geoff Hotson, Composition Merit Award I; Gerda Rainville, Composition Merit Award II; Guy Young, Process Photography Merit Award; Cliff East, Machine Printing Merit Award (Third Year Graduate); Kip Campbell, Offset Printing Technology Award; Kevin Carey, James Burrell Memorial Award; Jane Brak, First Year Merit Award; Robert Banks, Second Year Merit Award.

All recipients of the Graduate Student Association awards received personalized plaques in addition to their cash awards. Membership in the association is available to any graduate of the three-year Printing Technician program. Associate membership is available to those who have completed two years.

Three special awards were also presented: The Polychrome Achievement Award to Kennedy Cheung and Mark Robertson; The Hoechst Chemicals Achievement Award to Janice Pich and Robertson Chen; and The Berkey Photo Achievement Award to Doug Hughes.

Fifteen Business and Commerce students were honored at another presentation January 18th. Winners were: Kitty Yue, The National Secretaries Association Award; Fiorella Lombardi, The Data Processing Management Association of Toronto Award; Glenn Ritche and Claudia Rugosi, The Tower Chisholm Ferguson Limited Award for outstanding work in the Insurance program; Michael McQuaid and Claudia Rugosi, The City of Toronto Awards; Ellen Hryb, The IBM Secretarial Arts Proficiency Scholarship; Angela Zaglul, The IBM Electronic Data Processing Proficiency Scholarship; Karen Dodick, The Samuel Brody Award for outstanding work in Marketing; Carol Petricko, The Court Reporter's Association Award; Clara Chien, The Metropolitan Toronto Legal Secretaries Award; Foreliza Huerta and Sattrohan Sukhraj, The Irwin-Dorsey Proficiency Award for outstanding work in accounting; Inderpal Singh, The McGraw-Hill-Ryerson Proficiency Award for outstanding work in accounting; Mee Wan Leung, The Certified General Accountants of Ontario Proficiency Award; Siu-Geok Au, The Society of Management Accountants of Ontario Proficiency Award; Sattrohan Sukhraj, The Eileen Straiton Award, presented by the Academic and Business and Commerce Divisions to an outstanding student in communications in the final year of any program; Angela Zaglul, The Honeywell Proficiency Award.

"The provision of excellence of education and training is what the College is all about. And awards programs always help bring that home," said President Doug Light in congratulating the winners.

Unemployed gain skills and jobs through program

Some George Brown College students never have to set foot inside the College.

So it was with Anna Lynn Murphy, assistant artist manager with Hart Murdock Artists Management on College Street; Diane Thomas, a glass cutter with Porto-Pac Limited, a Toronto company that designs and produces decorative mirror products; Alexis Wallrich, a graphic designer with Nelvana Studios Ltd.; word processing operator Erma Smith and Mary Partridge, assistant to the director of touring, for the Canadian Opera Company.

All of these people received specialized training for their jobs through the Canada Manpower Industrial Training Program (CMITP) at George Brown College.

The program provides federal government funding for organizations who wish to train a person or persons, previously unemployed or unskilled, for specialized skilled jobs.

An industrial training consultant from the college works with the organization to custom-design an appropriate program. Then a contract is drawn up outlining the number of people to be trained, the job description, and the training methods to be used. Training usually takes place on the job premises.

Anna Lynn Murphy was hired by Hart Murdock under just such a contract with George Brown College, a year ago November. The company manages tours, publicity, repertoire, etc. for classical and folk musicians. Owners Joanne Hart and Anne Murdock needed someone who could be trained to help plan, organize and co-ordinate their clients' activities.

Ms. Murphy had graduated from Queen's University with a degree in music in the spring of 1976. She then worked at a series of part-time jobs in Kingston while she continued studying music part-time. The following year she heard about the position with Hart Murdock through the Ontario Arts Council and was hired as a trainee. Now she's assistant artist manager for the company, with complete charge of the office when Hart and Murdock are away. She likes the job so much that she's abandoned the idea of returning to school full-time to get her masters degree. Hart Murdock is currently trying to acquire another employee through the Manpower Industrial Training Program, whom Ms. Murphy will help train.

Diane Thomas at work in Porto-Pac shop.

James Schreifels also hopes to hire another employee under the CMITP program. He runs a small business, Porto-Pac Ltd., that supplies decorative mirror products such as planters, napkin rings, Christmas tree ornaments and display risers, to flower shops and gift stores from Halifax to Victoria. Clients have included Bowrings, United Cigar Stores and Eatons South Sea shops, but most of the business is done with small independent gift stores.

Last July, Mr. Schreifels hired Diane Thomas as a glass cutting trainee. He needed someone who could learn to cut mirror sheets by hand to prescribed dimensions; position them on a jig; mark designs on flat glassware using a glass cutter, and sand and polish the finished product. Ms. Thomas, who was unemployed at the time, had previous experience as a window and interior store display person. She had the creative ability, manual dexterity and patience that Mr. Schreifels was looking for.

Besides the theoretical aspects of the job, Ms. Thomas had to familiarize herself with the use of specialized equipment such as jigs, circle cutters, arrising and finishing machines, and materials like mirror sheets of varying thicknesses, and different types of backing. Since the business is a two-person operation, she also had to learn about shipping and receiving and general office procedures.

She has just completed her training and Mr. Schreifels says he is very pleased with her work. Business is flourishing and as soon as the firm's exhibit at the Toronto Spring Gift Show is over in February, he hopes to hire another trainee.

Nelvana Studios is no newcomer to the CMITP training program. The company, which specializes in the production of half-hour animated films, including "A Cosmic Christmas", "The Devil and Daniel Mouse", and an animated "Star Wars" spin-off for television, has had at least five of its staff trained through the program, since 1971. Lenora Hume, Canada's only woman animation camera operator, and company comptroller Henri Paluskiewicz, were both Manpower-sponsored trainees.

The most recent trainee is Alexis Wallrich who was hired as a graphic designer last July. Mr. Wallrich had worked part-time for the company previously, as a painter for animated films. The job entailed coloring in character outlines drawn by other artists. Other than this, he had no previous art training.

Nelvana needed a graphic designer to do titles, air brushing and other design work for the company's films, live-action education shorts and TV commercials. Mr. Wallrich was hired, and according to Ms. Paluszkiewicz, is doing well. The program is very good, she says. All of our trainees are still working with the company, with some, like me, going back several years.

The Canadian Opera Company is new to the program. Erma Smith has just finished her training as a word processing operator with the company. Mary Partridge, who was hired in September, has completed the practical training for her position as assistant tour director, and is continuing the office-based segment of her training.

Ms. Smith, a single parent, had been unemployed for nearly two years when she was hired for the word processing position. She has since become so proficient and innovative with the company's equipment, says Director of Finance Erika Zankl, that the manufacturer's representatives come to her for tips on machine applications. "It's very rewarding to see someone take such pride in their work," says Ms. Zankl.

Mary Partridge had worked for the company under Experience '78, the government-sponsored summer employment program for students. She was responsible for organizing, training and supervising volunteer help at the company's Toronto Pavilion during Caravan, last year.

When the position came up for trainee as assistant tour director, she applied and got the job. She first spent two months in the office making arrangements for accommodation and transportation for the fall tour. Then she went on the road with the company, assisting with arrangements from here to Vancouver, to California, and back to Toronto. Now that she's back in the office, she will help with the day-to-day internal operation, advance bookings, etc., in order to free up the director of touring for other responsibilities.

The company has approval for two other CMITP training contracts. One is for a wig person to be responsible for buying, preparing, styling, fitting, maintaining and storing the company's wig wardrobe. Stratford is the only other theatrical group in Canada currently employing a full-time wig person. The opera company's wig person will be trained by the resident wig master who works for the company on a seasonal basis.

The other position is for an assistant to the director of marketing.

Ms. Zankl, who was trained as an apprentice herself in Europe, is very much in favor of the Manpower program. "Apprenticeship-type training is held in very high regard," she says, "and is certainly a competitive advantage to trainees later on in their careers."

What is a millwright? Few people know

The first in a series of articles about little-known College programs and courses.

George Brown College and its predecessor, PIT, have been training millwrights for the construction industry for 18 years. Yet very few people know what a millwright does.

The original millwrights were employed in windmills and sawmills, working with wooden hand tools to install machinery such as wooden gears and beams. Today, millwrights install and maintain highly advanced machinery in newly-built factories.

Ron Walmsley, a millwright instructor at George Brown, says graduates of our apprenticeship program can install and repair anything from simple machine shop tools to nuclear generators.

George Brown is the only college in Ontario offering this type of training. What's more, we have the distinction of having trained the first Canadian millwright to win the International Millwright Competition sponsored annually by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

Bill Gibson, who won the competition last year in Philadelphia, has been offered jobs all over the continent as a result. He came to George Brown on a three-year apprenticeship training program and graduated last year.

The in-school portion of the program consists of one eight-week and two seven-week training sessions. These may be spread out over three or four years, or more, depending on how long it takes the apprentice to complete the total training hours.

The first eight-week session is called the basic training period. It consists of a 30-hour class week: nine hours of theory, eight hours of shop work, four hours of welding, four hours of trade calculations, three hours of blueprint reading and two hours of communications. During this time, the apprentices work with hand tools such as lathes, and learn safety regulations.

The intermediate training session deals with the theory and operation of machinery components such as gears, belts and chains.

The advanced training period delves into installation and alignment techniques, and machinery maintenance.

Mr. Walmsley says he plans in the future to divide the advanced period into two sections for two types of millwrights: those who install industrial machinery, and those who repair it.

The Millwright program has expanded over the years. When Walmsley started teaching it 18 years ago, he was the only instructor. Today, there are four instructors and five classes of 20 students each.